

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 00071 121140Z
ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 USIE-00 HA-05 AID-05 SSO-00
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FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3889

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 0071

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: OEXC, SHUM, GV
SUBJECT: COLLOQUIUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS -- VISIT OF DR. WEINSTEIN

REF: (A) STATE 06674, (B) STATE 03705

1. HAVE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO PURPOSE OF PROPOSED WEINSTEIN VISIT (REF B) AND CONCLUDE RESULTS WOULD BE MARGINAL AT BEST. WHILE GOG SUBSCRIBES TO US POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, SUBJECT IS OF GREAT SENSITIVITY HERE; GOG FEELS BELEAGUERED ON SUBJECT, AND PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE HAS INVEIGHED AGAINST ILHR; ACADEMICS, LAWYERS, JURISTS AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS WOULD BE MOST RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS HUMAN RIGHTS WITH WEINSTEIN; WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY PARTICIPANT FOR COLLOQUIUM, BOTH BECAUSE OF THIS RELUCTANCE AND BECAUSE ANY PARTICIPANT WOULD HAVE TO BE SELECTED BY GOVERNMENT. NO CHANCE OF SPEAKER/ DISCUSSANT PROGRAM. IN ADDITION, AS SUGGESTED REF A, THERE IS POSSIBILITY OF CONFUSION OVER PURPOSE OF WEINSTEIN VISIT AND WHOM HE REPRESENTS. EMBASSY THEREFORE BELIEVES IT ADVISABLE REMOVE CONAKRY FROM WEINSTEIN ITINERARY.

2. WE SEE NO PROBLEM WITH INVITING GUINEAN PARTICIPATION IN COLLOQUIUM, PARTICULARLY AS GOR WILL BE ISSUING
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INVITATIONS. BELIEVE ONLY COURSE WOULD BE TO EXTEND INVITATIONS DIRECTLY TO GOG, WHICH WOULD IN ANY CASE DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT TO PARTICIPATE AND WHO WOULD REPRESENT GUINEA. INVITATION WAS BEST EXTENDED DIRECTLY BY GOG IN POST WHERE BOTH COUNTRIES ARE REPRESENTED RATHER THAN BY USG. HARD TO FORECAST, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE GOG MIGHT AGREE TO PARTICIPATE,

SEEING COLLOQUIUM AS OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THEIR

SIDE OF HUMAN RIGHTS PICTURE AND TO POINT OUT THAT
THEY, TOO, WEAR WHITE HATS. VIRTUE BY ASSOCIATION.
CROSBY

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Message Attributes

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